



Strawberry plant named 'Carmine'

Botanical designation: *Fragaria ×ananassa* Duchesne

Cultivar designation: 'Carmine'

*OK to enter
LZ 3/22/07*

Background of the invention. All phases of the development of the new variety took place at Dover, Florida as part of an ongoing breeding program. 'Carmine' resulted from a controlled cross between 'Rosa Linda' (U.S. plant patent no. 9,866) and FL 93-53 (not patented). Seeds from the cross were germinated in a greenhouse, and the resulting seedlings were planted and allowed to produce daughter plants by asexual propagation (i.e. by runners). Two daughter plants from each seedling were transplanted to raised beds, where they fruited during the 1995-96 season. 'Carmine' (as represented by two daughter plants from the original seedling) exhibited attractive, firm fruit, and therefore was selected for further evaluation. 'Carmine' has been asexually propagated by runners, annually, and further test plantings have established that the vegetative and fruit characteristics of the propagules are identical to the initial two daughter plants.

Summary of the Invention. The invention is a new and distinct variety of strawberry named 'Carmine'. When 'Carmine' is grown in a subtropical fall and winter climate, it is set apart from all other strawberry varieties known to the inventor by a combination of the following characteristics: high December through February production (greater than 17,000 pounds of marketable fruit per acre); fruit that are firm, deep red, and glossy; and moderate resistance to